# REDUCING THE RISK OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS: A STATE PERSPECTIVE

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#### RISK ASSESSMENT

- vs. RISK MANAGEMENT
- FORMAL RISK ASSESSMENT VERY LITTLE
- 1000's OF RISK ASSESSMENTS EACH DAY
- 80 90% OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTIONS

#### BASIS FOR INSPECTIONS

- STATE LAWS BASED ON FD&C ACT
- CURRENT GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE REGULATIONS
- EARLY VERSIONS OF FDA MODEL RETAIL
   & FOOD SERVICE CODES

## SHIFT TOWARDS RISK-BASED (HACCP) INSPECTIONS

- RESPONSIBILITY OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT OPERATOR -MITIGATING RISK
- ROLE OF REGULATOR ASSURE THERE IS A PLAN TO EFFECTIVELY IDENTIFY, MONITOR & CONTROL FOOD SAFETY RISKS & ESTABLISHMENT IS OPERATING ACCORDING TO PLAN

## TRANSITION FROM TRADITIONAL TO RISK-BASED

- **■** ENORMOUS
- CULTURAL AND PROCEDURAL
- LARGELY INCOMPLETE IN NON-MEAT FOOD AREAS

## HACCP SYSTEM - REGULATOR'S NEEDS

- IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF UNDERLYING FOOD SAFETY PRINCIPLES
- IMPROVED FOOD-PROCESSING KNOWLEDGE
- IMPROVED INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

## HACCP SYSTEM ESTABLISHMENT OPERATOR'S NEEDS

- MORE KNOWLEDGE
- DIFFERENT KNOWLEDGE
- WILL AND ABILITY TO IDENTIFY, MONITOR AND MANAGE FOOD SAFETY RISKS

#### TRANSITION

- EVOLUTIONARY RATHER THAN REVOLUTIONARY
- DICTATED BY LARGE INVESTMENTS IN TIME, TRAINING AND CONSULTATION
- NECESSARY FOR CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF REDEFINED ROLES, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

## MOVEMENT - UNEVEN AND UNCOORDINATED

- STATES LOOKING TO DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS
- MOVE ENTIRE FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM TO RISK BASED FOUNDATION
  - INCREMENTALLY
  - STEADILY
  - SYSTEMATICALLY

#### RISK MANAGEMENT BY STATES

- 80 90% OF ALL INSPECTIONS
- FOODBORNE ILLNESS INVESTIGATIONS
- MAJOR FOOD SAMPLING DATABASES
- RECALLS OF VIOLATIVE FOOD PRODUCTS
- ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### VISION

- NATIONWIDE, SEAMLESS, FULLY-INTEGRATED FOOD, SAFETY SYSTEM
- INCORPORATE ALL FOOD SAFETY RESOURCES
- INVOLVE ALL STAKEHOLDERS
- ELIMINATE OVERLAPS AND GAPS
- SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE INCIDENCE OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS

#### NATIONAL FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM (NFSS) PROPERTIES

- COMMON VISION
- NATIONAL UNIFORM STANDARDS
- UNIFORM INSPECTIONS & ENFORCEMENT
- UNIFORM LABORATORY PRACTICES
- ADEQUATE TRAINING
- ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS
- FEDERAL OVERSIGHT

#### NFSS WORK PRODUCTS

- TEMPLATE OF ALL ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES
- "FOOD SAFETY UNIVERSITY"
- MODEL FOOD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
- OVERSIGHT MODEL TO AUDIT STATE INSPECTIONS
- GUIDELINES FOR COORDINATION OF MULTI-STATE FOODBORNE OUTBREAKS

#### NFSS WORK PRODUCTS (cont.)

- PILOT TO DEVELOP STANDARDS FOR E. coli O157:H7 SAMPLING/TESTING METHODS
- INFORMATION SHARING PILOT (eLEXNET)
- UNIFORM CRITERIA TO EVALUATE FOOD SAFETY PROGRAMS

### STATE FOOD SAFETY TASK FORCES

- IDENTIFY, DISCUSS AND DESIGN REAL LIFE IMPROVEMENTS
- PROVIDE MECHANISM TO ROUTE INFORMATION TO AND FROM NFSS
- BROAD CROSS SECTION OF REPRESENTATION
- RAISE THE LEVEL OF COMFORT, TRUST & COMMUNICATION

## "BASELINE STUDY" OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS RISK FACTORS

- FOOD FROM UNSAFE SOURCES
- INADEQUATE COOKING
- IMPROPER HOLDING TEMPERATURES
- CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT
- POOR PERSONAL HYGIENE

#### RISK COMMUNICATION

- DEVELOPMENT OF THE "FOOD SAFETY UNIVERSITY"
- "STATE HELPING STATES" INITIATIVE
- "GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES"
- "GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICES"
- DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE LIAISONS

#### CONCLUSION

"THINK GLOBALLY, BUT ACT LOCALLY"